

# Shrewsbury Public Library

## News and Events

### Letter from the Director

Upon returning from lunch one afternoon, as I was making my way towards the entrance I overheard a young child ask his Mother to "Read it again, Mom". Wondering what was drawing his attention, I watched as the mother began reading the "No Parking, Fire Lane" sign that's attached to an exterior wall of the building. Slowly, word by word she read the sign. The child laughed and then immediately implored "Read it again Mom". They were starting in on their third reading of the sign by the time I entered the library.

I smiled as I considered the mother's patient reading of the sign and the child's visible pleasure in seeing his mother decode all those symbols to create words. As funny as it is to think a child might find a no parking sign so enchanting, I knew I had performed similar readings for my daughter. I recall reading newspapers, recipe cards and other such things to my daughter when she was just a baby. I'm sure she simply liked the sound of my voice, the rhythms of speech, the inflection and tones. I bet this sign would have held appeal for her as well.

This got me thinking about what great pleasure there is in being read to. Many adults can recall the joy of being read a bedtime story, or having a special teacher read chapters of a book aloud to the class. I think it's an experience that many of us find relaxing and pleasurable.

I started thinking about the growing popularity of audio books. While it's true that many patrons use them because they offer a great alternative to reading in this busy world, part of the appeal must be the comfort and pleasure found in the read-aloud experience.

The Library's audio book collection is very popular and its use grows each year. The format has changed over the years, but users quickly adapt to new formats. Originally the library had audio books on cassette tape. Patrons enjoyed them in their homes or cars, while taking their walks or runs or to access literature when vision problems made reading

difficult. As CD players became more commonplace, we began purchasing audio books in CD format to respond to user demand.

There's now a new format on the scene. Audio books can now be accessed in electronic format. As part of the C/W MARS network, the library has just recently introduced digital audio books. These "e-audio books" can be downloaded to portable devices or computers and even transferred to CDs. Your Shrewsbury Public Library card gives you access to this great collection of digital audio books through an online service called OverDrive. Just having your library card in hand provides you free access to this great new collection. From your home internet connection, go to <http://digitalbooks.cwmars.org/>. At this website you'll be able to browse and "check-out" (or download) the audio book you desire. There's a great selection of titles, including bestsellers and classics, fiction and non-fiction, from popular authors and leading publishers such as HarperCollins, McGraw-Hill, Zondervan, and John Wiley and Sons. There are romance books, mysteries, business titles, computer manuals, biographies, and more. There's even a small collection of children's titles, which will increase over time.

There are lots of great features to this new collection. You can place holds on titles already in use. You will never accrue late fees with digital books; at the end of the digital book loan period, the title will expire and be automatically 'returned' to the library. The collection is available 7 days per week, 24 hours per day.

So if you have a computer or portable music device and are interested in hearing some good stories, check out this great new digital collection. I imagine the child who appreciated the no parking sign would find much to enjoy here. I hope you do too.

Sincerely,  
Ellen M. Dolan  
Library Director

# Children's Programs

## Storytimes

### Not Your Usual Storytime

Tuesdays, November 1 – 22 1 – 2 pm  
This storytime is for older listeners, grades K – 4. We will all listen, read and do. Come and add your voice.

### Baby & Me Storytime

#### Session 2 (Birth – 2 ½ )

Tuesdays, Nov. 1 – 22 10 am  
Space is limited - lottery will be held Oct. 24 – 28.

### Lunch Bunch Story time (all ages)

November 17 11 am  
No registration required. Bring your lunch and a blanket. Listen to some of our favorite stories.

### Tales for Two's and Three's (Ages 2 ½ - 3 ½)

Thursdays, Dec. 1 – Dec. 22 10 am  
No registration necessary. Come listen to stories and sing some songs. Children must attend with an adult.

### Egyptian Craft (Grade K – 4)

November 2 4 pm  
Space is limited - register beginning Oct. 19.  
Celebrate the anniversary of the discovery of King Tutankhamen's tomb by making your own Egyptian artifact.

### Craft and a Movie

November 25 2 pm  
For children in Grades K-4. Need something to do on your vacation day? Come to the library and be creative! Then watch the movie, "The Polar Express". It will help us all get into the holiday spirit. Please register for the craft portion beginning Nov. 10.

## Narnia

November 29 7 – 8 pm  
Which came first? "The Magician's Nephew" or "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe". Get all set for the movie by reading one (or both) of those books. Then come and tell us what you think. Register beginning Nov. 15.

### Family Ornament Workshop (Grades K-4)

December 7 6:30 pm  
Take a night to relax and enjoy the holiday season. We will be making some holiday crafts. This evening is recommended for children in Grades K-4 and their families. One adult may work with up to 2 children. Space is limited. Register please, beginning Nov. 23.

## School Vacation Week at the Library

For children in grades K – 4

### Million Minute Challenge

December 28 10 am – 4 pm  
Have you been playing? Join us for a final challenge. See how many minutes we can add at the last minute. Come to the Meeting Room to play one of our games, or bring your own. No registration necessary.

### Cooking and a Story

December 29 2:30 pm  
Listen to a story and then make a light snack to enjoy. Space is limited - register beginning Dec. 16.

### Movie Day

December 30 2:30 pm  
Had a busy week? Come watch a movie at the library. The name of the movie will be posted in the Children's Room at the beginning of the month. No registration required.

## **Moon Dirt**

November 8 7:30 pm  
Ever wonder what “moon dirt” looks like? Come to the Library and see for yourself! The regional NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratories “Solar Ambassadors” will host a display of lunar samples and their meteorite collection, including an informative talk on the subject. Free and open to all interested.

## **Ketav Patel, Visiting Physician**

November 21 7:30 pm  
Ketav Patel will share his experience as a “train physician” in his native India. Mr. Patel was part of a team of physicians whose traveling hospital visited several cities and towns by railcar, bringing first class health care services to people who would otherwise not had access.

## **Friends of the Library**

### **Holiday Special Open House**

December 3 9 am – noon  
All are welcome to join us for a holiday celebration. Learn how to make origami cranes to decorate the Library tree. There will be stories at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30. Have a cup of holiday cheer and visit with your neighbors. There may even be a surprise or two. Mark your calendars now!

### **Friends of the Library eBay Sale**

In order to support the Library and its programs better, the Friends of the Shrewsbury Library are now selling books on eBay and are asking for your help. Unlike the usual books accepted for the annual book sale, special books including rare, hard to find books, antiquarian, leather bound, hardcover classics, hardcover books with embossed or gilt designs, hardcover books with gilt edges, and children’s pictorial hardcover books are being sought. All books are asked to be clean copies in good condition. All contributions patrons can make to this new fund-raising endeavor by the Friends would be deeply appreciated. The Friends support programming for all ages at the Library.

## **Book Groups**

### **Eclectic Browsers Book Group**

December 1 10:30 am  
The Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett  
With movie and Pageturners Mystery Book Group, bring a sandwich for lunch, soup’s on!

December 29 10:30 am  
Skipping Christmas by John Grisham

### **Pageturners Mystery Book Group**

November 3 10:30 am  
Meet Mr. Mulliner by P.G. Wodehouse

December 1 10:30 am  
The Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett  
With movie and Eclectic Browsers Book Group, bring a sandwich for lunch, soup’s on!

### **Science Fiction Book Chats**

November 2 7 pm  
Hell House by Richard Matheson

December 7 7 pm  
I am Legend by Richard Matheson

### **Comedy Movie Festival**

Sundays, November 6 - 27 2 pm  
We’re screening some of the funniest movies ever made! Refreshments will be served.

11/6 Some Like it Hot not rated by the MPAA  
11/13 The Odd Couple rated G by the MPAA  
11/20 Airplane! Rated PG by the MPAA.  
11/27 Monty Python and the Holy Grail  
rated PG by the MPAA

### **Holiday Movie Festival**

Sundays, December 4 - 18 2 pm  
Come watch your favorite holiday movies on the BIG SCREEN! Snacks will be provided.

12/4 Home Alone rated PG by the MPAA  
12/11 A Christmas Story  
rated PG by the MPAA  
12/18 Muppets Christmas Carol  
rated G by the MPAA

# Young Adult Stuff

*ALL Young Adult Programs are for students in **grades 5-12** unless otherwise noted. To encourage participation in Young Adult programs, these programs are limited to students in grades 5-12. Older/Younger children **WILL NOT** be admitted. Thank you for your cooperation.*

## Alex Rider Spy School

For students in grades 5-8 ONLY.

Mondays, Nov. 7 – 28 & Dec. 5                      4 pm

Learn real spy tips and tricks just like the ones Alex Rider uses in his adventures! This program is limited to 10 participants, so sign up is required and can be done by calling 508-842-0081 x3.

Want to get a head start? Read all of Alex's adventures, written by Anthony Horowitz: Stormbreaker; Point Blank; Skeleton Key; Eagle Strike; Scorpio.

## Phunky Teez

November 23    2:30 pm

Turn a boring shirt into a piece of art, created by you! Using fabric pens, safety pins, and other fun stuff, you'll create a slogan shirt that's all your own! No registration necessary, just drop in and bring your own shirt!

## TAGS is now SPLAT!

The Teen Advisory Group has changed its name to SPLAT! (Shrewsbury Public Library Advisory Team). Help us plan programs *you* want to attend, pick materials *you* want to see in the library, and hang out with other teens. In short, this is a group all about what *you* want. To join, fill out an application available at the front desk or at <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library/eventsya.asp>. We'll contact you when we have our next meeting!



## Get Crafty - Holiday

December 16    3:30 pm

Come make a fun and easy craft that you can keep or give away just in time for the holidays! Registration is required and space is limited. Call the library for more information. 508-842-0081 x3.

Shrewsbury Public Library  
609 Main Street  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545  
Now Open  
Mon. - Wed. 10 am - 9 pm  
Thurs. - Sat. 9 am - 5 pm  
Sun. 1pm - 5 pm